

CLAIMS:

1. An adapter assembly for mounting in an opening in a panel, comprising:
a housing mountable in the opening in the panel and including a pair of housing
halves secured together at an interface;
a first of the housing halves projecting from one side of the panel and having first
5 receptacle means for receiving at least one connector, the first housing half being fabricated
of plastic material to withstand repeated insertions of the connector into the receptacle means;
and
a second of the housing halves projecting from an opposite side of the panel and
having second receptacle means for receiving a complementary connecting device for mating
10 with the connector within the adapter assembly, the second housing half being fabricated of
metal material to provide EMI protection at the opening in the panel.
2. The adapter assembly of claim 1 wherein said first housing half is unitarily
molded of dielectric plastic material.
3. The adapter assembly of claim 1 wherein said second housing half is
fabricated of diecast metal material.
4. The adapter assembly of claim 3 wherein said first housing half is unitarily
molded of dielectric plastic material.
5. The adapter assembly of claim 1, including snap-latch means between the pair
of housing halves for securing the housing halves together.
6. The adapter assembly of claim 1, including at least one alignment sleeve
spanning said interface between the pair of housing halves, with opposite ends of the sleeve
extending into a pair of aligned holes in the respective housing halves.
7. The adapter assembly of claim 1, including latch means on at least one of the
housing halves for securing the adapter assembly in the opening in the panel.

8. The adapter assembly of claim 7 wherein said latch means comprises a metal latch.

9. The adapter assembly of claim 8 wherein said metal latch comprises a singular component having a pair of latch arms on opposite sides of the adapter assembly.

10. The adapter assembly of claim 1, including an EMI gasket about the adapter assembly and substantially surrounding the opening in the panel.

11. The adapter assembly of claim 10 wherein said EMI gasket is fabricated of metal material and is disposed about the second, metal half of the housing.

12. The adapter assembly of claim 10 wherein said EMI gasket is fabricated of foam material with metal conductive fabric covering said foam material.

13. The adapter assembly of claim 10 wherein said EMI gasket is fabricated from silicone with material impregnated with metallic particles.

14. The adapter assembly of claim 2, wherein said dielectric plastic material is of a predetermined color to indicate the type of mating connector installed in the second of the housing halves.

15. An adapter assembly for mounting in an opening in a panel, comprising:
a housing mountable in the opening in the panel and including a pair of housing
halves secured together at an interface;

5 a first of the housing halves projecting from one side of the panel and having first
receptacle means for receiving at least one connector, the first housing half being unitarily
molded of dielectric plastic material to withstand repeated insertions of the connector into the
receptacle means;

10 a second of the housing halves projecting from an opposite side of the panel and
having second receptacle means for receiving a complementary connecting device for mating
with the connector within the adapter assembly, the second housing half being fabricated of
diecast metal material to provide EMI protection at the opening in the panel; and

latch means between the pair of housing halves for securing the housing halves
together.

16. The adapter assembly of claim 15, including at least one alignment sleeve
spanning said interface between the pair of housing halves, with opposite ends of the sleeve
extending into a pair of aligned holes in the respective housing halves.

17. The adapter assembly of claim 15, including an EMI gasket about the adapter
assembly and substantially surrounding the opening in the panel.

18. The adapter assembly of claim 17 wherein said EMI gasket is fabricated of
metal material and is disposed about the second, metal half of the housing.

19. The adapter assembly of claim 15, including a latch on at least one of the
housing halves for securing the adapter assembly in the opening in the panel.

20. The adapter assembly of claim 19 wherein said latch comprises a metal latch.

21. The adapter assembly of claim 20 wherein said metal latch comprises a
singular component having a pair of latch arms on opposite sides of the adapter assembly.

22. An adapter assembly for mounting in an opening in a panel, comprising:
a housing mountable in the opening in the panel and including a pair of housing
halves secured together at an interface;

5 a first of the housing halves projecting from one side of the panel and having first
receptacle means for receiving at least one connector, the first housing half being fabricated
of plastic material to withstand repeated insertions of the connector into the receptacle means;

a second of the housing halves projecting from an opposite side of the panel and
having second receptacle means for receiving a complementary connecting device for mating
with the connector within the adapter assembly, the second housing half being fabricated of
10 metal material to provide EMI protection at the opening in the panel;

first latch means between the pair of housing halves for securing the housing halves
together;

second latch means on at least one of the housing halves for securing the adapter
assembly in the opening in the panel; and

15 an EMI gasket about the adapter assembly and substantially surrounding the opening
in the panel.

23. The adapter assembly of claim 22 wherein said second latch means comprises
a metal latch.

24. The adapter assembly of claim 23 wherein said metal latch comprises a
singular component having a pair of latch arms on opposite sides of the adapter assembly.

25. The adapter assembly of claim 22 wherein said EMI gasket is fabricated of
metal material and is disposed about the second, metal half of the housing.

26. The adapter assembly of claim 22, including at least one alignment sleeve
spanning said interface between the pair of housing halves, with opposite ends of the sleeve
extending into a pair of aligned holes in the respective housing halves.